

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 239
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.03.2025

Mangrove Loss and Coastal erosion

239*. SHRI CAPTAIN BRIJESH CHOWTA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has identified mangrove loss as an environmental risk for Karnataka's coastal districts;
- (b) if so, the details of mangrove afforestation programmes funded in Dakshina Kannada;
- (c) whether any special funds have been allocated in the Budget 2025 for prevention of coastal flooding and erosion in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has set up a Task Force for tackling coastal erosion and harnessing climate resilience in Karnataka's coastal belt; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARA (a) to (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No. 239 DUE FOR REPLY ON 17.03.2025 REGARDING “MANGROVE LOSS AND COASTAL EROSION” RAISED BY SHRI CAPTAIN BRIJESH CHOWTA, HON’BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

(a) to (c)

Mangroves are bio-shield for natural coastal hazards especially against cyclones. They provide significant environmental benefits to the coastal ecosystem and communities. Mangroves are vital ecosystems that provide numerous benefits, including shoreline protection, habitat for biodiversity, supporting a wide range of plant and animal species, improving water quality and are highly efficient at sequestering carbon dioxide.

Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC) has notified The Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 2019, under Environment (Protection) Act 1986, which specifies Mangroves as Ecologically Sensitive Area (ESA). The notification has provisions to ensure conservation and management of such ESA.

Forest Survey of India, an organization mandated with forest survey under MoEFCC publishes “India State of Forest Report” (ISFR) biennially. The mangrove cover in the State of Karnataka, as per ISFR-2023 report is 14.20 sq.km showing an increase of 2.54 sq.km with respect to the previous assessment (ISFR-2021). The increase observed are 0.66 sq.km, 0.21 sq.km and 1.67 sq. km in Dakshin Kannada, Uttar Kannada and Udupi districts of Karnataka respectively.

MoEFCC under National Coastal Mission scheme has provided financial assistance of Rs. 109.01 lakhs to the State of Karnataka during Financial years 2021-22 to 2022-23. Two mangroves sites namely Karwar and Honnavar in Uttar Kanadda were provided financial assistance of Rs. 38.81 Lakhs and Rs. 24.56 Lakhs respectively during FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23, Kundapur mangrove area in Udupi District was provided an amount of Rs. 35.05 Lakhs in FY 2021-22 and Mangalore mangroves area in Dakshin Kannada was provided Rs. 10.59 Lakhs in FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23. As per the information provided by the Ministry of Jal Shakti, a budget of Rs. 450 Crore has been proposed in the Budget FY 2025-26, under the Flood Management and Border Areas Programme (FMBAP) scheme which deals with providing central assistance to the State Governments for taking up critical works related to flood control, anti-erosion, drainage development and anti-sea erosion, etc.

(d) to (e)

Coastal Protection and Development Advisory Committee (CPDAC) under the Chairmanship of Member (River Management Wing), Central Water Commission (CWC), Ministry of Jal Shakti, have been constituted to guide and implement the programme of anti-sea erosion works & to consider the development potential in the protected coastal zone. The secretariat of the committee is Coastal Management Directorate within CWC. The committee is a high-level inter-ministerial body comprising coastal engineering experts and representatives from Maritime States/Union Territories and relevant Central Departments to provide common platform to discuss and solve the coastal erosion problems.

National Disaster Management Authority, under Ministry of Home Affairs has created a Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction (CoDRR) on Coastal Hazard Mitigation. This committee includes all relevant stakeholders concerning all coastal hazards and 9 (nine) Coastal States and 4 (four) UTs to discuss problems and risk at coastal areas and possible mitigation measures and issues that might arise for implementing any such programmes at the State Level.
